

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY / NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY BETHESDA  
BRAC INTEGRATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING SUMMARY – FEBRUARY 27, 2018**

- Ilaya Hopkins called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Ilaya, having previously notified the Committee of her family's plan to move out of state in the coming months, turned the "gavel" over to Nancy Abeles who has graciously volunteered to assume the Chair. BIC and audience members introduced themselves.
- Updates from Phil Alperson, Montgomery County Military Installations (BRAC) Coordinator:
  - Check out the County's BRAC site:  
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/>
  - Matters discussed at BIC meetings are detailed chronologically with background material on the website's "Get Involved" Page:  
[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brctmpl.asp?url=/Content/EXEC/brac/get\\_involved.asp](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brctmpl.asp?url=/Content/EXEC/brac/get_involved.asp)
  - Printable Timeline: Anticipated Construction-Related Traffic Disruptions in Bethesda:  
[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/resources/files/brac\\_projects\\_timeline.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/resources/files/brac_projects_timeline.pdf)
  - BRAC Transportation Projects and Commuting Options:  
[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brctmpl.asp?url=/content/exec/brac/projects\\_glance.asp](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brctmpl.asp?url=/content/exec/brac/projects_glance.asp)
  - News and Updates from NSAB can be found on the campus on-line weekly JOURNAL which generally publishes on Thursday:  
<http://www.dcmilitary.com/journal/>
  - Phil reminded the Committee to get traffic and BRAC news and information first by following Montgomery County BRAC on Twitter @BracMoCoMD
- Updates on the MD 355 Multimodal Crossing Project at the Medical Center Metro Station -- Frank Kingsley (MCDOT), Phil Sheridan (Clark Construction):
  - News and documentation can be found on the County's comprehensive Crossing Project web site (<http://md355crossing.com/>) that supplements the County's BRAC web site ([www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac)) and Twitter account (@BRACMoCoMD). The site includes photos of the ongoing construction.
  - Blasting to excavate the 135-foot deep elevator shaft to the Metro mezzanine has been ongoing, with single blasts occurring once per day, usually twice per week. The shaft excavation is complete and blasting is underway to excavate the tunnel connecting the elevators to the Metrorail mezzanine. Blasting will

continue up to the last 10 feet, when rock will be removed mechanically. MCDOT expects to break into the Mezzanine approximately late March.

- **Construction of the pedestrian underpass has been vigorous but completely out of sight because it is underground. Concrete pouring is almost complete.**
  - **Work will begin in March on improvements to the adjacent intersections of Rockville Pike/Jones Bridge Road and Rockville Pike/Woodmont Avenue/Center Drive (NIH). Lane Closures will take place in March and April but only on weekdays and only between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM.**  
<http://md355crossing.com/single-lane-closures-on-rockville-pike-in-march-and-april-near-jones-bridge-road-and-woodmont-avenue/>
  - **Complaints are still heard about confusing signaling and signage related to the Dynamic Signaling on southbound Rockville Pike at eastbound Jones Bridge Road**, especially where one lane has two arrows -- one indicating a left turn and one indicating a through lane.
- **Update on MCDOT's Platt Ridge Drive Extension Project:** This project will extend Platt Ridge Drive northward from Jones Bridge Road into the Chevy Chase Valley neighborhood, and provide safe ingress and egress with a signalized four-way intersection. Construction will commence in March and will take approximately nine months to complete. The signal that has been placed temporarily on JBR at Spring Valley Road will be removed.
  - **SHA INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATES:**
    - **MD 185 (Connecticut Ave) at Jones Bridge Road:** Nicolas Saavedra, the Project Manager, reported that design of the intersection is approximately 90% complete. This will add a new lane on eastbound JBR between Platt Ridge and Connecticut Ave., to create an additional northbound left turn lane onto Connecticut. Because a portion of eastbound JBR traffic west of Connecticut will shift to the south, some lane widening must be performed on JBR east of Connecticut to ensure safe traffic movements crossing Connecticut. Meetings with the affected communities, especially Chevy Chase Park on the southeast corner, have been ongoing and cordial, and that designs will be finalized soon with them. SHA has modified the original plans to minimize impacts on the community, but the CCP brick wall still must be relocated. Project construction will begin after the MCDOT project at Platt Ridge Drive is finished, probably in 2019. Utilities relocation, which will be extensive, will take place concurrently with roadway construction. The project will take approximately two years.
    - **NOTE: This SHA link provides updates on all the BRAC Intersection Improvement Projects. Use the "Feedback" Tab to ask questions or**

**register complaints:**

<http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/WebProjectLifeCycle/ProjectSchedule.aspx?projectno=MO5932125>

- **MD 187 (Old Georgetown Road) at Cedar Lane/Oakmont Drive:** This project is virtually complete, with only some relatively minor landscaping remaining.
  - **Related SHA/MCDOT project extending the Bethesda Trolley Trail along southbound Old Georgetown Road:** This project is also complete, except for some outstanding minor landscaping.
- **MD 355 (Rockville Pike) at Cedar Lane/West Cedar Lane:** This project is complete.
- **NSAB UPDATES:** Swing space construction is near completion. Staff will be relocated from interior campus buildings scheduled for demolition to precede eventual construction of hospital “Building C.” Captain Jones, Ryan Emery and Jeremy Brooks are in frequent communication with residents of adjoining neighborhoods to resolve issues related to construction on the NSAB campus. NSAB strives to be a good neighbor and is sensitive to matters such as overflow contractor parking and construction-related noise. They report modifications to lighting of the garage fronting Jones Bridge Road that has dramatically reduced neighbor complaints.
  - **NOTE: A DOD website offers a good overview of NSAB** (<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/537593/nsab-overview>) **and the campus newspaper, the Journal, can be viewed on-line** (<http://www.dcmilitary.com/journal/>).
- **NIH UPDATES:** Tracey Johnson-Butler introduced herself as the new NIH liaison to the BIC, replacing Susan Roberts.
- **SUBURBAN HOSPITAL:** Leslie Weber reported that the new garage construction is complete, and that progress on the new hospital buildings is moving well, with completion anticipated in 2019.
- **THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK TO ILAYA HOPKINS!** Proclamations were presented to Ilaya from County Executive Ike Leggett and Senator Chris Van Hollen honoring her ten-plus years on the BIC – seven of them as Chairperson. Many kind words were shared as Ilaya and her family prepare to move to Minnesota to begin the next chapter in their lives!
- **Nancy Abeles adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm. The next Committee meeting schedule is for June 19, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at the BCC Regional Services Center.**

**BRAC Committee members in attendance, February 27, 2018:**

Nancy Abeles, Bethesda Crest  
Phil Alperson, Montgomery County Military Installations (BRAC) Coordinator  
Ilaya Hopkins, East Bethesda Citizens Assn. and Chair of the BRAC Integration Committee  
Tracey Johnson-Butler, National Institutes of Health  
Frank Kingsley, Montgomery County Dept. Of Transportation  
Richard Levine, Locust Hill Citizens Association  
Janet Maalouf, Maplewood Citizens Association  
Debbie Michaels, Glenbrook Village Home Owners Association  
Sara Morningstar, Montgomery County Office of Intergovernmental Relations  
Patrick O'Neil, Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce  
Leslie Weber, Suburban Hospital/Johns Hopkins Medicine

**Ex officio:**

Captain Marvin Jones, Naval Support Activity Bethesda  
Ryan Emery, Installation Transportation Officer, Naval Support Activity Bethesda  
Jeremy Brooks, Public Affairs, Naval Support Activity Bethesda  
Joan Kleinman, Office of Senator Chris Van Hollen  
Ken Reichard, Office of Senator Ben Cardin  
Aaron Kraut, Office of Council Member Roger Berliner  
Debbie Spielberg, Office of Council Member Marc Elrich

**Other Attendees (signed in):**

Allan Glass  
Greg Humes, Chevy Chase Valley  
Jeanette Musil, DOD Office of Economic Adjustment  
Kevin Price, Sharp & Company  
Nicolas Saavedra, MD State Highway Administration  
Phil Sheridan, Clark Construction Group  
Ken Strickland, Chevy Chase Valley